

Happy New Year

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JANUARY 2023

Hardeeville
PARKS, RECREATION & TOURISM

HARDEEVILLE PRT HAPPENINGS

Official Newsletter of the Hardeeville Parks, Recreation,
and Tourism Department

New Year, New Fitness Goals

The holiday season has come to an end! Everyone probably attended many parties, ate delicious comfort foods, did a lot of shopping, and partook in many celebrations. Now as the year has come to an end, it is the time that we all sit down and reflect on what we have achieved and set new goals for this new year. Health and fitness goals are very important because you need to take care of you! Stop by the Hardeeville Recreation Center to secure your membership to begin working towards your goals! You can reach out to our partner, Fusion Fit Bluffton, at 630-300-8289 or fusionfitbluffton@gmail.com for all your personal training needs!



Hardeeville Recreation Center
285 John Smith Road
Hardeeville, SC 29927
Monday - Friday: 7 AM - 8 PM
Saturday: 10 AM - 5 PM
Recre8@hardeevillesc.gov
843-227-4089



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Health

Fitness

Sports

Recreation Advisory Commission (RAC)

- Landon Papay, Chair
- Kathy Talbot, Co-Chair
- Kevin Lombard
- Terry Laseter
- Sherry Carroll
- Tammy Gray
- Christie Cregg

The Recreation Advisory Commission meets on the 2nd Monday of every month, 5:30 PM at City Hall.

Want to serve? Applications are online at the City's website. For more information, please email us at recre8@hardeevillesc.gov

Looking for Instructors

The Hardeeville Recreation Center is looking to expand class offerings at our center including health and fitness classes, dance, arts and crafts, etc.

If you are interested in teaching a class at our facility, please reach out to recre8@hardeevillesc.gov for more information.

If you know someone who is qualified, please share this with them!





Christmas Time in Hardeeville

Santa was in town, did you get to see him?

This holiday season was warm, bright, and oh so busy! We were so excited to see our wonderful community come out and support one another with event after event. The Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony kicked off the holiday festivities. Everyone gathered around and enjoyed a nice hot cup of cocoa and delicious sugar cookies. Children and adults alike gathered around to delight in fun holidays traditions. The reading of the Night Before Christmas took place as children gathered together in addition to an acoustic community sing-along. Everyone gasped in delight when the Christmas tree lit up and just like that, Santa himself showed up in the Hardeeville Fire Truck. Children and adults were able to visit with Santa and tell him their Christmas wishes and he gave everyone a hat, a small plush, and a candy cane.



**“Gifts of time and love
are surely the basic
ingredients of a truly
merry Christmas.”**

PEG BRACKEN



A few days later, Santa and City of Hardeeville PRT and Public Works staff went around the City collecting donations for our local children. Some very special volunteers served as Santa's helpers and sorted and wrapped gifts for Santa's Toy Box. Santa and his helpers then delivered toys to all of the good boys and girls of Hardeeville through the local schools and churches.

Hardeeville held its inaugural Christmas Parade. There were many local businesses, organizations, and community members who stepped up to be a part of the Christmas Parade. Families scouted the best viewing locations and enjoyed free candy and other giveaways as they watched. There were beauty queens donned with their sashes and crowns, car clubs with their beautiful and unique cars on display, and we even had The Grinch make an appearance! The Hardeeville Police and Fire Departments brought out the sirens and lights to make this parade extra special. Did we mention that we had line dancers in our parade lineup? We did! But wait, there's more! Hardeeville also hosted its inaugural Hardeeville Holly Day right after the parade. There was an iceless skating rink, snow, a screening of Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas, face painters, inflatables, the Polar Express Train, and Santa himself! Now Santa is resting and getting ready to do it all again next year.

Thank you to all who helped! We couldn't do this without your help and support!

2022 In Review



2022 Operation Bunny Drop

In 2022, Secret Agent Easter Bunny (Code name: EB) received a special case in Hardeeville, SC. His mission: to visit local children in the area and drop off Easter eggs filled with candy and other fun surprises. The catch? Not to get caught. Agent EB was caught at every single home!!! But the mission was a success because all 19 children were happy!

2022 Easter Eggstravaganza

2022 was the first year that we were able to host our Easter Eggstravaganza Egg Hunt in person after COVID-19. Although we enjoyed having the drive through events, nothing beats seeing everyone in person. The Easter Bunny led the egg hunts and took so many pictures! There was free face painting, inflatables, and coloring tables for all!



2022 Earth Day and Litter Sweep

We thank all of our volunteers from our annual Earth Day litter sweep, working hard to keep our beautiful City of Hardeeville, SC and Jasper County Clean and green! Special thanks to our first responders Hardeeville PD, Hardeeville FD, Jasper County Sheriff's Department, SCDNR, Public Works and our very own PRT Team! We'd also like to thank Miss Lyn Boyles with Keep Jasper County Beautiful and Palmetto Pride for the \$1000 donation for our event!

PRT was awarded the 2022 Zenie Ingram Community Service of the Year Award

We were humbled by PRT being awarded the 2022 Zenie Ingram Community Service of the Year Award at the 2022 Jasper County Jasper on the Move Award Banquet. PRT works diligently everyday to provide the best recreational and leisure opportunities for our residents and visitors while improving their quality of life.



2022 Youth Fishing Rodeo

The 2022 Youth Fishing Rodeo was back and better than ever. This year was a record breaking year! We had 100 children and their families come out for some fishing fun in the sun! We would like to thank our volunteers, Marine Rescue Squadron Squadron 2B, Hardeeville PD, Hardeeville FD, and Judge Gutierrez for making this event possible. Also, thanks goes to Fiddlers Seafood Restaurant for the amazing gift certificate for our grand prize winner!



2022 In Review

2022 Bark in the Park

June 2022 saw our Hardeeville Bark in the Park and we had so much fun with some beautiful, lovable and adoptable dogs from Jasper Animal Rescue Mission! So many animals needed homes to call their forever own! Although none were adopted, many had the chance to play, get extra belly rubs, and treats. There are still many dogs that are adoptable so please consider giving them their furever home! There were also some canine residents and visitors who attended with their paw-rents and got to play at the Hardeeville Dog Park.



2022 4th off Main

The 2022 version of 4th off Main was a smashing success. We had a live band playing music as people relaxed on their lawn chairs and picnic blankets. Some of our canine residents came out and enjoyed the event as well. We had some amazing organizations set up tents and giveaway some goodies to our attendees. The community came together to enjoy games, food trucks, and of course fireworks. The night sky lit up as the fireworks dazzled children and adults alike.

Hardeeville Recreation Center 1st Anniversary

The Hardeeville Recreation Center turned ONE! We are excited to see people from all over the area come and make this center their own. We have enjoyed watching our regulars come and work on their different fitness and health goals. To celebrate and thank everyone for their patronage, we held a Facebook giveaway and awarded a FREE 1 year membership! We also gave away free swag, cupcakes, protein bars, and water bottles to our members when they visited us on our birthday week!



2022 Fill the Bus

Our 2022 Fill the Bus event was definitely a success. We want to send a huge thank you to Sun City, Margaritaville-Latitude Lakes, Hilton Head Lakes, Riverton Pointe and downtown Hardeeville residents for donating so much for our students in Hardeeville. Special thanks to all the wonderful volunteers that came out and sorted then filled bags, we wrapped up in a day. We are are blown away by what volunteers can do!

2022 In Review

2022 Public Safety Night

We had a great time at Public Safety Night! There was music, food, games, and free swag! It was so much fun to see our community come together and learn more about our local public safety agencies and organizations. Anytime our community can come together and have safe fun, it is a good time. There were so many amazing parts of this event but a crowd pleaser was the live burn demonstration by the Hardeeville Fire Department. Thank you Hardeeville Fire and Hardeeville Police for putting on a great event!



2022 Festival on Main

There is so much to say about the 2022 Festival on Main that will not fit in this column! The two-day festival was packed with fun for everyone. Friday night, the ever-popular Deas-Guyz rocked the stage and made sure that everyone was on their feet dancing. The second night, we welcomed an 80's tribute band - The Reagan Years. There were amusement rides, food and craft vendors throughout the event. Festival on Main also featured Savannah Axe Throwing that provided free entertainment for attendees. Oh, we forgot to mention, we had approximately 8,000 attendees!

2022 Trunk-or-Treat

The 2022 Trunk-or-Treat was truly the most spooktacular night of this past year. There were so many children running around collecting candy from our amazing trunk volunteers. We also had food vendors on site selling dinner and dessert to those in attendance. This year we will need more volunteers since we had approximately 800 children present. The hardest part of the night was judging the different costumes for the costume contest because everyone did such an amazing job.



2022 Battle of the Badges

Our community members came out to watch the epic Battle of the Badges and were treated to an awesome game! Hardeeville Police Department took home their first ever Battle of the Badges trophy after winning a close game with Hardeeville Fire Department. The unofficial amount raised was over \$11,000. Thank you to our many generous sponsors, community and of course our hometown heroes - the men and women in public safety!



2022 In Review

2022 Battle of the Briskets

Our community came out to watch the epic Battle of the Badges and were treated to not one but TWO battles. The Battle of the Briskets was a battle within the battle between the Hardeeville Police Department and the Hardeeville Fire Department. The Battle of the Briskets took place to see which team could smoke the best brisket. After several tastings of the brisket (official business of course!), the judges named the Hardeeville Fire Department as the winner!



2022 Big Rig Day

In November 2022 we hosted our very first Big Rig Day! This event let kids of all ages take the wheel as they learned about different types of heavy machinery and vehicles through play and words from those who use the equipment every day. The first hour of the event was quiet hour for those with sensory sensitivities. We had Hardeeville Police, Hardeeville Fire, Hardeeville Public Works, the Allendale-Hampton-Jasper Regional Library Bookmobile, Jasper County Sheriff's Office, Harley Davidson of Savannah, and community members bring out some cool equipment for children to interact with and learn.



2022 Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

Thank you to everyone who came to the Hardeeville Christmas Tree Lighting! We had a jolly good time seeing all of the good boys and girls meeting Santa. Hot chocolate and sugar cookies were enjoyed while everyone gathered around and sang along to Christmas carols, listened to stories, and chanted for the magical Christmas tree to light up. The night was truly made when Santa Claus made his appearance on a fire truck and children witnessed the magic of the holiday season.



2022 Santa's Toy Box

Santa and his elves drove around Hardeeville picking up the generous donations from our local neighborhoods. Sun City, Margaritaville and Hilton Head Lakes donated toys for our local schools and churches. Later, some special volunteers became Santa's helpers to sort and wrap toys while enjoying some coffee and donuts. Nothing was sweeter than children receiving their wrapped Christmas gift and knowing that the magic of Christmas lives in the heart of the Hardeeville community!



2022 In Review

2022 Hardeeville Christmas Parade

Our community came out to watch the very first Hardeeville Christmas Parade! There were car clubs with beautiful cars, beauty queens, Christmas music, local businesses, candy, sirens and lights from our first responders, and so much more. It was so fun to see families come out and find the best spot to watch the parade while being wrapped in blankets to stay warm! Even the Grinch and Santa showed up!



2022 Hardeeville Holly Day

Another first for Hardeeville! The Hardeeville Holly Day took place behind City Hall right after the Christmas Parade. All of the activities and entertainment were free to the public. There was an iceless skating, snow play zone, an inflatable gingerbread house, face painters, the Polar Express train, crafts and food vendors, and even visits with Santa Claus in his grotto. The night ended with a showing of Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas!



2022 Annual Senior Holiday Lunch

The Hardeeville Recreation Center was honored to host the Mayor's Annual Senior Holiday Luncheon. Volunteers served an amazing catered lunch (Pizza Bella in Ridgeland, SC) while community members enjoyed fellowship and holiday cheer. The residents of Riverton Pointe came together and donated many Christmas gifts for every senior in attendance. There was amazing food, gifts, and lots o smiling faces!



2022 Wreaths Across America - Hardeeville

The Wreaths Across America - Hardeeville Committee has been established to support the National Wreaths Across America Campaign efforts to remember Veterans buried locally in Hardeeville with wreaths to honor their service at the grave site. The Parks, Recreation & Tourism Department had the great honor to assist with the Wreaths Across America Hardeeville Ceremony.



Intern with PRT

Work with the Parks, Recreation & Tourism Department to complete tasks, lead programs and events, attend meetings and assist in certain divisions within the department while gaining a well-rounded experience through issued responsibilities in compliance with course requirements. This internship runs through the Spring. Interns will work 40 hour weeks.

Compensation:

Interns receive pay in the sum of \$8.00/hr. and housing. Interns are designated as Temporary Full-Time Employees with no benefits and a defined start and end date of employment.

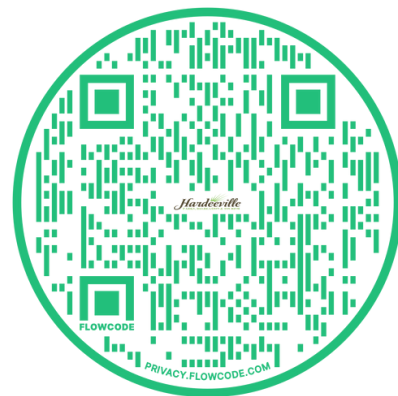
To apply, please submit a cover letter, resume, a complete application that can be found on the City's webpage Hardeevillesc.gov and a list of three references (past employers and at least 1 academic advisor) – by email to:

Imelda Golden

Programs and Events Manager

Email: recre8@hardeevillesc.gov

Phone: 843-227-4089



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Scan the QR code with your camera to find us
online!



**"What the
new year
brings to
you will
depend a
great deal
on what
you bring to
the new
year."
—Vern
McLellan**

2023

